Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, One hundred and twenty years ago, our nation was at war with itself, and central to the dispute was the issue of slavery; and,

WHEREAS, On February 1, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln signed the proposed Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery with the words, "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction"; and,

WHEREAS, The National Freedom Day Bill, signed into law by President Harry S. Truman on June 30, 1948, authorizes the President to issue a proclamation designating the first day of February of each year as National Freedom Day; and,

WHEREAS, South Dakotans are proud to participate in this national observance by commemorating the signing of the resolution which became the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of our nation:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 1, 1985, as

FREEDOM DAY

in South Dakota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of January, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Five

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE